

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: : Jean-Luc PERON  
U.S. Serial No. : Filed Concurrently Herewith  
Title of Invention : DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD

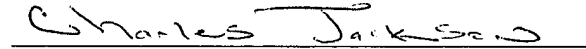
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Date of Deposit: March 23, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: **Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

  
(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

  
(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows: